

Message Text

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10

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 ACDA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 SCCT-01 /081 W
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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5374

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

USEC BRUSSELS

UNCLAS MADRID 3025

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SP

SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT'S "WAR" ON ETA ENJOYS CONTINUING SUCCESS

REF: MADRID 2919, MADRID 2894

1. THE GOVT'S "WAR" ON ETA CONTINUED SUCCESSFULLY WITH THE ANNOUNCEMENT FRIDAY, 16 APRIL, THAT 21 MORE PRESUMED ETA MEMBERS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED. THE POLICE CLAIMED THAT THE BREAKING-UP OF THE POLITICAL-MILITARY WING OF ETA, FIFTH ASSEMBLY WAS PROCEEDING. AT THE SAME TIME, FRENCH POLICE CONTINUED TO SEARCH THE HOMES OF PRESUMED ETA MEMBERS IN HENDAYE AND BAYONNE. A LIST OF SOME 100 INDUSTRIALISTS AND BUSINESSMEN
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IN THE BASQUE PROVINCES REPORTEDLY WAS DISCOVERED. NEXT TO

EACH NAME WAS THE SUM OF MONEY TO BE COLLECTED BY ETA AS
A "REVOLUTIONARY TAX."

2. ON SATURDAY, 17 APRIL, IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE LAST FOUR
ESCAPEES FROM SEGOVIA PRISON (WHO IT WAS BELIEVED HAD CROSSED
INTO FRANCE) HAD BEEN HIDING IN A COUNTRY HOUSE NEAR THE
FRENCH BORDER BUT STILL IN SPAIN. THEY (AND A MEMBER OF THE
COMMANDO UNIT WHICH ENGINEERED THEIR BREAKOUT) FLED WHEN THE
OWNER OF THE HOUSE DISCOVERED THEM. THUS FAR THEY HAVE NOT
BEEN LOCATED AND ARRESTED.

3. THE SPANISH PRESS REPORTS THAT THE CANCELLATION BY THE PNV
AND OTHER BASQUE OPPOSITION GROUPS OF THE "ABERRI EGUNA" (BASQUE
NATIONALIST DAY") CALLED ORIGINALLY FOR THIS EASTER SUNDAY WAS
OBSERVED BY MOST GROUPS, INCLUDING THE PSOE AND THE PCE.
HOWEVER, ETA AND VARIOUS OTHER SMALL EXTREMISTS GROUPS REPORT-
EDLY ISSUED CALLS FOR THE HOLDING OF THE MANIFESTATION. SMALL
NUMBERS OF DEMONSTRATORS ATTEMPTED TO DO SO SUNDAY MORNING IN
PAMPLONA BUT THE POLICE WERE OUT IN MASSIVE FORCE FAR
OUTNUMBERING THE WOULD BE DEMONSTRATORS AND MADE A NUMBER
OF ARRESTS.

4. ALSO SUNDAY, 18 APRIL, A FIRE-FIGHT BROKE OUT NEAR THE
FRENCH BORDER BETWEEN A GUARDIA CIVIL UNIT AND FOUR MEN WHO
REFUSED AN ORDER TO HALT, THROWING INSTEAD A HAND
GRENADE AT THE POLICE. ONE OF THE MEN WAS KILLED, ANOTHER
WOUNDED. TWO SUCCESSFULLY FLED. TWO SUBMACHINEGUNS AND A
PISTOL WERE FOUND AFTER THE FIGHT. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS,
THE FOUR WERE ETA MEMBERS ATTEMPTING TO MAKE THEIR WAY TO
PAMPLONA.

5. THERE IS STILL NO WORD ON THE TWO SPANISH POLICEMENT REPORT-
EDLY KIDNAPPED BY ETA ON FRENCH SOIL ON APRIL 4. THE FOURTH
MEMBER OF THE ETA COMMANDO UNIT WHICH MURDERED KIDNAP VICTIM
ANGEL BERAZADI IS STILL AT LARGE.
STABLER

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